AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A composition suitable for the treatment or prophylaxis of COPD and other acute or chronic diseases in a mammal, especially a human being, comprising at least one glutamate, other than mono sodium glutamate, and a precursor of glutamate selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine, isoleucine, and a keto acid thereof, in a daily dose for said mammal of at least 6 grams of the total of said glutamate and precursor forms thereof.

2. (Withdrawn) A composition as claimed in claim 1 comprising at least one glutamate, other than mono sodium glutamate, and a precursor of glutamate selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine, isoleucine, and a keto acid thereof, in a daily dose for said mammal in a range of between 9 and 20 grams of the total said glutamate and precursor forms thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) A composition as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 which is a dietary food supplement where the amount of said glutamate or said precursor form thereof is subdivided in dosages of up to 3 grams, for regular administration to achieve continuously increasing glutamate level.

4. (Withdrawn) A composition as claimed in claim 1 of claim 2 which is a pharmaceutical composition where the amount of said glutamate or said precursor form thereof is subdivided in unit dosages of up to 3 grams, for regular administration to achieve continuously increasing glutamate level, the pharmaceutical composition further comprising a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier.

5. (Withdrawn) Use of at least one glutamate, other than sodium glutamate, and a precursor of glutamate selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine, isoleucine,

and a keto acid thereof, in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of COPD and other acute or chronic diseases in a mammal, especially a human being, wherein the medicament is formulated in a unit dose form to achieve a daily dose of at least 6 grams of the active ingredient of the medicament.

6. (Withdrawn) Use as claimed in claim 5, wherein the medicament is formulated in a unit dose form to achieve a daily dose in a range of between 9 and 20 grams of the active ingredient of the medicament.

7. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 4, or the use as claimed in claim 5 or claim 6, which is formulated for oral and parenteral administration.

8. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 4, or the use as claimed in claim 5 or claim 6, which is formulated to achieve a continuously increasing glutamate level.

9. (Withdrawn) Use as claimed in any one claims 5 to 8 wherein the medicament additionally contains one or more substances selected from the group consisting of stimulants, hormones, analogues of such hormones, phyto-hormones, analogues of such phyto-hormones, and anti-oxidants.

10. (Previously Presented) A method of treating COPD in a mammal which comprises orally administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a composition consisting essentially of at least one glutamate, other than mono sodium glutamate, and a precursor of glutamate selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine, isoleucine, and a keto acid thereof.

11. (Withdrawn) Use of at least one glutamate, other than mono sodium glutamate, and a precursor of glutamate selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine, isoleucine, and a keto acid thereof, in the preparation of food supplement or a prophylactic composition to restore or increase the glutamate level in the body, in particular the muscles, of an individual.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said mammal is a human.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said method is treating the skeletal muscle fatigue caused by ~~associated with~~ COPD.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said composition is administered to said mammal as a daily dose in a range of between 9 and 20 grams of the total of said glutamate and precursor forms thereof.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the amount of said glutamate or said precursor form thereof is subdivided in dosages of up to 3 grams, for regular administration to achieve continuously increasing glutamate level.

16. (New) A method of treating COPD in a mammal which comprises orally administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a composition consisting of the active components of at least one glutamate, other than mono sodium glutamate, and a precursor of glutamate selected from the group consisting of leucine, valine, isoleucine, and a keto acid thereof, wherein said composition contains no other active components besides said glutamate and said precursor of said glutamate.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said mammal is a human.

18. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said method is treating the skeletal muscle fatigue caused by COPD.

19. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said composition is administered to said mammal as a daily dose in a range of between 9 and 20 grams of the total of said glutamate and precursor forms thereof.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the amount of said glutamate or said precursor form thereof is subdivided in dosages of up to 3 grams, for regular administration to achieve continuously increasing glutamate level.